

Proclamation

by

Matthew G. Bevin
Governor

of the

Commonwealth of Kentucky



To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:

- WHEREAS, During the month of May, we observe National Foster Care Month and recognize the progress of Governor Matt Bevin's Open Hearts/Open Homes initiative, which aims to find permanent placements for those children in foster care with a goal of adoption by relying on the state's churches and nonprofit groups to engage nurturing families in local communities; and
- WHEREAS, We celebrate all those families who have welcomed children in need; and
- WHEREAS, In Kentucky, we offer the deepest gratitude and thanks to all the people who serve Kentucky's youth as foster & adoptive parents, mentors, respite care providers, and volunteers. In Kentucky last month, at an all-time high, foster families were serving more than 8,000 of our Commonwealth's most needy citizens; and
- WHEREAS, Foster families are children's champions, serving as the primary source of love, support and protection to many of Kentucky's vulnerable children; and
- WHEREAS, Every child has the right to live in a safe and supportive family. With our Open Heart/Open Home Initiative, we challenge and encourage all Kentuckians, in particular, the faith-based community to help agencies like DCCH, to recruit, train and support anyone who feels the call to minister to abused and neglected children; and
- WHEREAS, A tremendous demand exists for foster and adoptive families across the state. Together, we can and we must raise awareness about this need and inspire volunteers to step forward and invest in the lives of our youth through our foster care system and to ensure all youth can grow up in a family who will nurture, guide and love them so to reach their full potential;

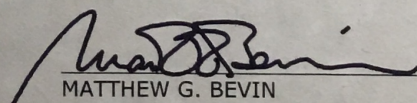
NOW, THEREFORE, I, MATTHEW G. BEVIN, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim May 2017 as

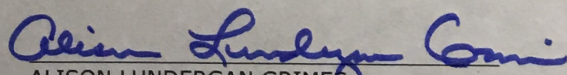
FOSTER CARE MONTH

in Kentucky.



DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort this 4th day of May, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Seventeen and in the 225th year of the Commonwealth.


MATTHEW G. BEVIN
GOVERNOR


ALISON LUNDERGAN GRIMES
SECRETARY OF STATE